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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2006

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INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO
RUFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS 132
RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 95

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR FR GW BL

SUBJ: ALTMANN/BARBI

1. NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTER ALFREDO ARCE TOLD AMBASSADOR AND
EMBOFFS APRIL 30 THAT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER ALTMANN/BARBI WILL BE
EJECTED FROM BOLIVIA. ARCE SAID ALTMANN/BARBI'S CONTINUED PRESENCE
IN BOLIVIA IS AN EMBARRASSMENT, IS BETRIMENTAL TO BOLIVIA'S INTER-
NATIONAL REPUTATION, AND A DOMESTIC POLITICAL IRRITANT. IN ADDITION
ARCE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL LACK OF SYMPATHY FOR ANYONE WHO WAS A
NAZI WAR CRIMINAL. ARCE SAID HE EXPECTED BOLIVIA'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM TO
FIND ALTMANN/BARBI EXTRADITABLE TO FRANCE, BUT HE SAID IF IT DID
NOT ALTMANN/BARBI WOULD BE SENT TO PERU IN RESPONSE TO PERU'S
REQUEST FOR HIM ON CRIMINAL CHARGES. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT
WHAT EFFECT ALTMANN/BARBI'S BOLIVIAN CITIZENSHIP WOULD HAVE ON THE
POSSIBILITY OF HIS EXTRADITION, ARCE SAID THE CITIZENSHIP WAS
OBTAINED BY FRAUD AND DISMISSED IT AS A CONSIDERATION.

2. COMMENT: ARCE'S HARD-LINE ATTITUDE ON THE ALTMANN/BARBI CASE
CONTRASTS FROM THAT OF HIS PREDECESSOR WHO SEVERAL MONTHS
AGO EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT ALTMANN/BARBI WOULD BE EXTRADITED IN VIEW
OF HIS BOLIVIAN CITIZENSHIP. SIRACUSA

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FOR COORDINATION WITH State

4/26/73